



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Notes from KO4ZFO (Rodney)

Dear SWARC members,
I'd like to thank all of you that attended our most recent meeting;
notably, some of our stalwarts were missing.

Reminder: We are now accepting RSVPs for the NC State Fair Ham Exhibit. If you are interested or have questions, please feel free to reach out to me. I will be posting the RSVP links on the SWARC website this coming week, but if you would like to sign up now, I have provided the links below. Keep in mind that there will be two sign-up sheets. One is for the regular Exhibit Booth, and the other is for the Special Event station. We are doing a Special Event Station both Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays of the fair. This is posted on ARRL Special Events listing. Please come out and enjoy the fun at the Fair!

Exhibit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48A5AC2EA3F5C25-50061011-2024#/>

Special

Event: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48A5AC2EA3F5C25-50512969-2024#/>

Please remember our fellow members who are dealing with various medical situations. Please reach out to these members. Even a phone



SWARC NEWS-09/24

call can brighten their day and give them encouragement through their recovery.

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Gary, KO4LQX, Kenny, KJ4CVK, Steve, KA0GMY, and Bernie Jones, N4BAJ.

Steve, KA0GMY, continues to have health issues of various and sundry sorts so remember him and his family.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports: **'Hi Richard!**

I'm doing okay; the immunotherapy is doing its job and my last scan showed no signs of disease. I have another scan next Tuesday and hoping for the same results. Most of my problems come from post radiation. Thanks for reaching out and take care. Gary. (Report from Richard Hall this past Wednesday).

Kenny (KJ4CVK), has ongoing health issues, so keep him in your thoughts. He hasn't been heard on nightly nets recently so encourage him to be more 'radio-active' and tell us how he's doing.

Bernie (N4BAJ) has pulled back from many activities due to the length of his recovery. His health has improved and he has been on some recent nightly nets, which is very encouraging.

Lastly, I want to remind you that we are now taking online payments for dues and donations. We currently have a link on our website which allows you to pay your dues. We will be splitting the link up in to two



SWARC NEWS-09/24

different links, which will help designate what the payment is for. This will be added to the club site over the next few weeks. While we work through these changes, please let us know when you pay online by emailing me, so that I can ensure your payment is marked either for dues or a donation. Thank you for patience during this process, and I would like to say a huge Thank You to Paul Nicholson and Christy Fernandini for getting this tested and implemented. Once the website is updated, we will be sending another notification email with further instructions.

Thanks again and I hope to hear from you all soon!

Rodney
KO4ZFO

Notes from NW3U (Dave)

Hello SWARC Members,

After a few technical glitches the September program, Marv Hoffman, WA4NC, the North Carolina Section Manager presented some information about the ARRL programs and goals. In addition, he briefed us on the workings of the Roanoke Division. Next month Krish, W4VKU, will give a presentation on some DXExpeditions he has taken part in. It should be interesting. Come on out.

Dave, NW3U



SWARC NEWS-09/24

SWARC 4 September 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held in the usual place at the usual time. There was enough food for those who participated; thanks to all who brought something.

Attendees: Bill (KK4QDZ), Rodney (KO4ZFO), Richard (K7RLH), Ken (KN4GUS), Don (KN4OEY), Paul (KN4NGI), Mike (KD4MC), Diane (KE4VNX), Rich (KZ4ET) and Jane, Gator (K4MWG), Phil (KQ4MSQ), Robert (KQ4GSA), Dave (NW3U), Steve (WB4SMS), Brian (KK4BK), Dave (K4MSE), Christy (KJ4AEO), Bob (KQ4RKT), Billy (KQ4LTD), Dean (WB4HSF), and James (N4CNX).

Old/Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Richard (K7RLH) moved that we donate \$300 to AL Post 116 as a token of good faith. This is predicated upon recent scheduling conflicts with Legion folks and an effort to stay in front of them since they sponsor the club. Seconded and passed; will be delivered in person by Phil (KQ4MSQ) and Ken (KN4GUS). **Update: Gator and I met with new commander yesterday afternoon. Apparently, we and others have caused some consternation with paying users of the facility, i.e., Bldg 2. Gator is our liaison with the Post so all complaints, etc., should go**



SWARC NEWS-09/24

through him before challenging anyone at the Post. We may need to modify our time frame for arrivals to include our setup time, etc. It was admitted by the Commander, that they failed to notify us of their changes to facility access. Most of all, we need to be courteous to anyone we speak to at the Post. That seems to be the biggest issue! We will try to get all of this worked out, but, remember, we do not pay rent for our use of their facilities.

Program/Presentation

The meeting opened at 7:03 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve (WB4SMS). We then went around the room introducing ourselves.

Secretary, Richard (K7RLH) inquired about Legion membership amongst our club members as this is important to maintain our relevance to AL Post 116 since recent officer changes have impacted our relationship and utilization of space, which, BTW, we pay nothing for, including the license testing sessions on the first Saturday of each month.

Due to some technical issues, Marv Hoffmann (WA4NC), the NC Section Manager, could not join us on Zoom until 7:40 pm. While he couldn't seem to share his screen, he did elaborate the material on his slides to include: the ARRL structure, numbers of ARRL member, total number of amateur licensees, and other topics such as the recent hacking of HQ's IT functions.



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Public Service

September 21st, the 2024 Gears for Golden Ride will take place in Pittsboro and on Oct 5th, in Hillsborough, the 2024 Bike Fest. If you would like to sign up for one of these events or need more information go to the HPSNC.org website

Sign up for events at the website listed below.

Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is very active and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christy Fernandini's report detailed \$130.00 in checks for dues with expenses of \$18.00 for credit card fees and Google fees. Balance of \$2,835.91 with no obligated funds or invoices outstanding. This, of course, is before the check approved in New Business was written.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Hall K7RLH
Secretary and Newsletter Editor



SWARC NEWS-09/24

MEMBERSHIP

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew somewhat online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is christyfernandini@outlook.com. Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

NET REPORT

SWARC Group – August 2024

The monthly total of check-ins was 170—a noticeable downturn from last month! Note that **not** all net controls record their counts so numbers could actually be higher than recorded.

- Saturday and Sunday evenings will be called by KT4JR & K7RLH
- KO4ZFO will call Monday evenings
- KN4OEY will call Tuesday evenings
- KK4BK will call Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights
- KO4ZFO or a board member will call Thursday evenings
- Fridays will continue to be called by NC4MP
- And we need backups – JUST BECAUSE.



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Please contact Rodney Warren (KO4ZFO) or Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), if you are interested in calling one or more nets. **If you are a scheduled net controller and you are not able to call your net, please reach out and ask someone else to call it for you!**

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network

www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars..net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network

www.carolina440.net

North Carolina Packet

www.ncpacket.com

TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)

www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info

www.torborg.com/a

Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts

www.fivecountyhre.org



National Preparedness Month: Have a Go Kit

September is National Preparedness Month, and ARRL is working to help radio amateurs have a plan for family resilience. Many hams enjoy public service as part of their operating. Being ready to activate for a served agency through the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) involves not only being licensed and trained, but also prepared and equipped.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV,



SWARC NEWS-09/24

suggests that hams and their families have a “go-bag”. He says there are a few things to consider: “You need to be able to function while activated, so that means you need a kit for your needs and a kit for your radio needs. If your family is impacted by the situation, they also need to have some gear at the ready.”

On the ARRL website, there’s an [Emergency Prep Kit Checklist](#). It lists the common items such as food and water for several days, a first aid kit, medications, chargers for your devices and other useful items.

See the next page for the checklist.



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Emergency Prep Kit Checklist

It's hard to think clearly during an emergency, and the last thing you want to do is leave something important behind. Use this checklist to gather essential items and prepare today for what might happen tomorrow.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, HAVE THESE ITEMS READY

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Food and Water
A 3-day supply of water and food. Include 1 gallon of water per person per day and non-perishable food items like energy bars, cereal, dried fruit, nuts, peanut butter, and canned meats. | ☐ First Aid Kit
Sterile gloves and dressings, bandages, soap, antibacterial towels, hand sanitizer, burn ointment, antibiotic ointment, eye wash, and a thermometer. |
| ☐ Utensils
Eating utensils, plates, cups, bowls, a can opener, and paper towels. | ☐ Medications
A 3-day supply of prescription medications, pain relievers, cold and sinus relief, anti-diarrhea medicine, antacids, and laxatives. |
| ☐ Clothing
A change of clothes for each person, rain gear, extra shoes, and waterproof boots. | ☐ Devices
A cell phone, a charging cord, a portable charger or battery pack, a hand-crank radio, an LED flashlight with extra batteries, and a headlamp. |
| ☐ Day-to-Day Living Items
Garbage bags, toilet paper, matches in a waterproof container, a multipurpose tool, dust masks, duct tape, plastic sheeting, Mylar® blankets, a whistle, local maps, and bleach. | ☐ Important Documents
Copies of birth certificates, driver's licenses, insurance cards, medication lists, medical records, proofs of address, passports, wills, bank records, marriage licenses, adoption papers, and emergency contact lists. |
| ☐ Personal Items
Toiletries, an extra pair of glasses/contact lenses, tweezers, and nail clippers. | ☐ Cash
Small denominations and change. |

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- ☐ **For Babies**
Diapers, baby wipes, baby powder, diaper rash cream, baby wash and lotion, formula, baby food, bottles, bibs, burp rags, pacifiers, teething tablets or gel, and blankets.
- ☐ **For Seniors**
Medications, hearing aids and batteries, extra eyeglasses, syringes, portable oxygen, mobility supplies, and contact information for doctors and caregivers.
- ☐ **For Children**
Books, toys, puzzles, crayons, and comfort items.
- ☐ **Ham Radio Gear**
A handheld, a mobile radio, chargers, extra batteries, antennas, power cords, and a laptop.





SWARC NEWS-09/24

Having a kit for your radio is useful as well. "Go kits will vary based on function and need for the field," said Johnston. "Most kits should include a dual band HT and/or mobile radio with antenna, a power supply and all necessary cables and connectors. Every kit should include note pad or paper of some type as well as pens or pencils. You should have a power source and power cables. If you are working HF then you will need an HF radio and antenna, and if you want digital capabilities, then a computer with software preloaded will be desired."



ARRL Gray Canvas Backpack

Other things you may want will include tape and tools, spare batteries, headphones, flashlights of some sort, cell phone chargers, and a multimeter. Other items that won't fit in a bag but may be needed include a generator, a working surface like a small folding table, a chair, and some type of shelter.

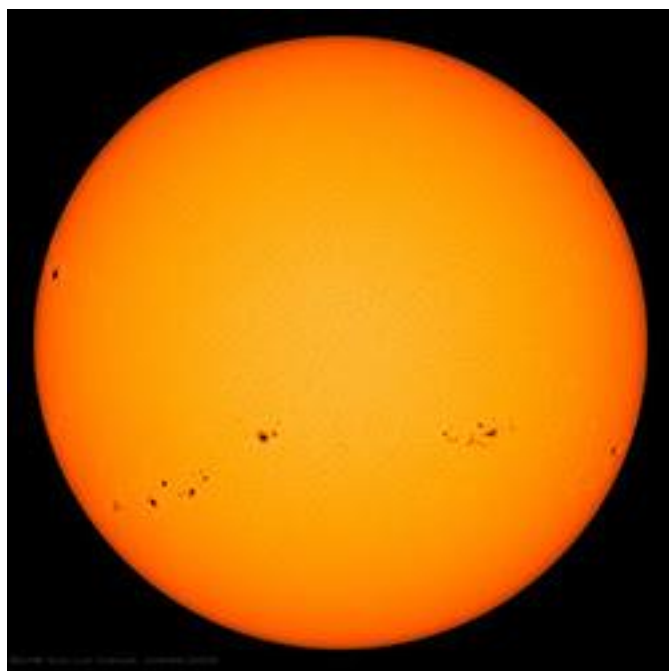
Need a bag for your go kit? Consider the [ARRL Gray Canvas Backpack](#). \$30.00 in the ARRL Store.



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Announcements

The K7RA Solar Update



This image was taken on
September 5, 2024.
[Photo courtesy of NASA
SDO/HMI]

For this Friday's ARRL
Propagation Bulletin,
ARLP036:
Eight new sunspot groups
emerged over the past week.

Two appeared on August 30,
three more on August 31,
another two on September 2
and one more on September
4.

The average daily sunspot
number declined from 177.1
to 155.3, while average daily
solar flux barely changed from
229 to 230.3.

Predicted solar flux is 260, 250, 240, and 250 on September 5 – 8; 255
on September 9 – 10; 245 on September 11 – 12; 240, 250, 255, and



SWARC NEWS-09/24

245 on September 13 – 16; 240, 235, 240, and 245 on September 17 – 20; 240 on September 21 – 22; 245 on September 23 – 24; 240, 235, 230, and 225 on September 25 - 28.

Predicted planetary A index is 10 on September 5 – 6; 5 on September 7; 10 on September 8 – 9; 8 on September 10 – 11; 5 on September 12 – 16; 8 on September 17 – 18; 5 on September 19 – 25, and 25 on September 26 - 27.

Sunspot numbers for August 29 through September 4, 2024, were 124, 143, 180, 156, 200, 133, and 151, with a mean of 155.3. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 204, 214.2, 232.6, 231.6, 225.5, 242.1, and 261.8, with a mean of 230.3. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 23, 26, 16, 8, 7, and 13, with a mean of 14. Middle latitude A index was 5, 16, 19, 16, 16, 16, 7, 10, and 16, with a mean of 12.7.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to k7ra@arrl.net.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.



SWARC NEWS-09/24

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).

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Just Ahead in Radiosport

- September 7 - 8 -- All Asian DX Contest (phone)
- September 7 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint (CW)
- September 7 - 8 -- SARL VHF/UHF FM Contest (phone)
- September 7 - 8 -- SARL Field Day Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- September 7 - 8 -- IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB (phone)
- September 7 - 8 -- RSGB SSB Field Day (phone)
- September 7 -- Ohio State Parks on the Air (phone)
- September 7 - 8 -- IARU Region 1 145 MHz Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- September 7 -- AGCW Straight Key Party (CW)
- September 7 -- CWOps CW Open (CW)
- September 7 - 8 -- PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Sprint (digital)

- September 8 -- [North American Sprint](#) (CW)
- September 8 -- WAB 144 MHz QRO (phone)
- September 9 -- 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint (CW, phone)
- September 9 -- 144 MHz Fall Sprint (CW, phone, digital)
- September 11 -- RSGB 80m Autumn Series (CW)

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.

Three promotional banners are displayed side-by-side. The left banner is for "Schulman Auction" and "AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT SPECIALISTS", featuring a red stylized logo and text about collections, estates, and specialty gear, with a "BUY/SELL" button and a QR code. The middle banner is for "Take On The Air" and "RigExpert", showing four mobile radios in blue, yellow, grey, and olive green, with prices like "-30\$" and "-15\$" and a "STICK Family" logo. The right banner is for "MMX Nomad" and "Complete HF Radio Station", featuring a black and yellow radio unit with a keyboard and a QR code, with the "PreppComm Amateur Radio" logo.

Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- September 8 | [ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Convention](#), Mullica Hill, New Jersey
- September 20 - 22 | [Duke City Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL New Mexico State Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- September 21 - 22 | [Midwest Superfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL



SWARC NEWS-09/24

Illinois Section Convention, Chillicothe, Illinois

- **September 28 | [Red River Radio Amateurs Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Dakota Division Convention, West Fargo, North Dakota**
- **October 5 | [Wichita Area Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Kansas State Convention, Wichita, Kansas**
- **October 5 | [Northstar Radio Convention](#), sponsoring the ARRL Minnesota State Convention, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota**
- **October 12 | [Rock Hill Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL South Carolina Section Convention, Rock Hill, South Carolina.**
- **October 18 - 20 | [Pacificon](#), sponsoring the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, California**
- **November 2 | [Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference 2024](#), sponsoring the ARRL Wisconsin State Convention, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin**

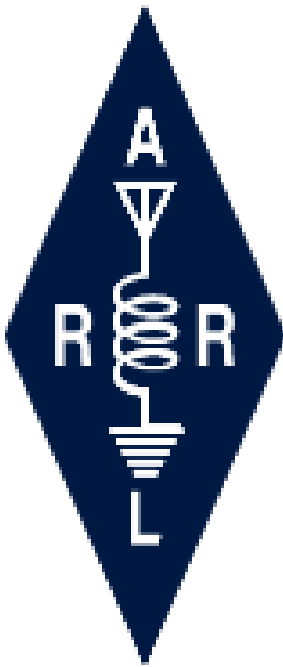
Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for the ARRL Letter and ARRL News can be sent to news@arrl.org. -- John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, [ARRL News Editor](#)



SWARC NEWS-09/24



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ARRL [magazines](#): *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.

The ARRL Letter is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.

[NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.

[QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members...



SWARC NEWS-09/24

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